

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Attachment

PART VRELATIONS BETWEEN RUSSIANS AND OTHERNATIONALITIES OF THE U.S.S.R.

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Introduction

[redacted] no sign [redacted] of official discrimination between the Russians and other nationalities of the Soviet Union, and [redacted] persons of the same level of intelligence have more or less equal opportunities whatever their nationality. A few non-Russians may sometimes be handicapped by an inadequate knowledge of the Russian language [redacted]

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2. There is nevertheless considerable latent, mutual dislike between Russians and the others on a personal plane. This applies in particular to the Jews. There is a tendency to make Jews, Tartars and Central Asians a scapegoat at the slightest opportunity. As the authorities keep a firm control, however, it is seldom that feelings are publicly expressed. [redacted]

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Jews

3. Dislike and jealousy of the Jews by the Russians and Ukrainians has existed from time immemorial and is still deeply rooted. They are regarded as cunning and less stupid than the "patient Russian people", who look after their own interests admirably. Resentment is caused by their occupation of a disproportionately high percentage of senior posts in the medical and trading world. The medical profession is dominated by them, and the directors or managers of the larger shops are almost invariably Jews. They have a pronounced habit of obtaining jobs for their friends and relations.

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4. At the time of the arrests of Jews in connection with the "Doctor's Plot" early in 1953, a wave of anti-Semitism swept through SARATOV. [redacted] Jews had been publicly cursed and even thrown out of public transport. The police apparently connived at this display of feeling. [redacted] At about the same time it was rumoured that a secret directive had been issued to Higher Educational Establishments ("Vuzy") restricting the number of Jewish entrants.

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5. [redacted] the majority of Soviet citizens, bewildered by the arrest and subsequent release of the doctors. [redacted] it was BERTIN who had ordered them to be freed after conducting investigations of the case. After BERTIN's fall the Government dared not reverse the position yet again.

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6. Very few Jews are sent abroad in the Soviet Army [redacted] the authorities fear that they would establish too close relations with the local populations, if only for the purpose of shady business transactions.

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Ukrainians

7. Apart from the inhabitants of the Western Ukraine, Ukrainians and Russians regard themselves as more or less of the same stock. They are both Slavs and their languages are very similar. The Russians know they need the Ukraine with its rich agricultural land and heavy industry. Although the Ukrainians might think their material standard of living would be better if they were independent, they know it would be difficult to defend themselves militarily unaided. [redacted]

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[redacted] despite the natural richness of the Ukraine, food often seems to be scarcer there than in other parts of the U.S.S.R.

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On the other hand, market prices are often somewhat lower, and because of the milder climate - life is a little less harsh than farther north and east.

#### Central Asians and Tartars

8. The inhabitants of the Central Asian Republics are generally regarded by the Russians and Ukrainians as still backward and stupid (*Otstaly i Tamny Narod*). Many do not speak good Russian, or sometimes pretend they do not. They have the reputation of having been cowardly and unreliable during the Second World War. Amongst recent reinforcements in the 8 Guards Rifle Army in Germany there have been increased numbers of Central Asians. There are no units composed exclusively of any one nationality. Relations between Russian and Central Asian soldiers are not bad, heard such expressions as : "Tartar ugly mug" ("*Tatarskaya Morda*") or "Uzbek ugly mug" ("*Uzbekskaya Morda*").

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#### Caucasians

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9. Georgians and Armenians are regarded as being more intelligent and cultured than the other non-Russian nationalities, and are on the whole popular. They have, however, the reputation of being Black Marketeers.

#### Baltic States

10. Inhabitants of the 3 Baltic States are regarded as nations quite distinct from the Russians, possessing a strong feeling of independence and superiority over the Russians. Although they serve in the Soviet Army, they are never posted abroad, being considered politically too unreliable. (Karelo-Finns are not placed in the same category, and are met in the Soviet Army abroad).

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